state the steps Government propose to take to ban those 27 institutions which are not legally empowered to award degrees to maintain the standard of education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): As and when the existence of self-styled universities comes to the notice of UGC, the Commission has been issuing notices to such institutions to disassociate the word University/Viswavidyaya/Vishwavidyapith against their name and stop awarding degrees in terms of the UGC Act. The Ministry of Human Resource Development and the Chairman, UGC have written to Chief Secretaries of all States/UTs bringing to their notice the existence of such self-styled Universities and requesting them to take appropriate action against such institutions. UGC has also set up a Committee to consider the question of proliferation of such fake universities in the country and suggest ways and means to check this growth, and also suggest amendments in the UGC Act to increase the penalty for violation of the provisions of the UGC Act in this regard.

Fourth Pay Commission's recommendation for Under Secretaries

3139. SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the recommendation of the Fourth Central Pay Commission to the effect that the pay of Under Secretary on promotion as Deputy Secretary be fixed by allowing a minimum benefit of Rs. 250/- has not so far been accepted;

(b) whether it is a fact that this is the only recommendation of the Fourth Central Pay Commission which remains unaccepted by Government, whereas many recommendations of the Commission have been improve upon;

(c) whether it is a fact that the said recommendation is still under Government's consideration and the case has again been referred to Government for accepting the same; and

(c) No, Sir.

(d) if so, by when a decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) The recommendation has not been accepted.

(b) No, Sir. There are a few other recommendations which have not been accepted by the Govt. Some recommendations have also been improved upon.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Setting up of common tecting laboratories for testing electronic equipment for export

3140. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an urgent need for setting up common testing laboratories for electronic equipment and accessories to maintain strict adherence to quality exports by export oriented units;

(b) if so, whether several Electronic Units in the country are manufacturing inferior quality goods and are exporting them;

(c) if so, what is Governments reaction thereto; and

(d) what further steps Government propose to take to keep a control on electronic equipment manufacturing units in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) Realising the need for

an effective infrastructure for Standardisation, Testing and Quality Control (STQC), the Department of Electronics. STQC Directorate have already set up/promoted 4 Electronics Regional Test Laboratories (ERTLs), one Centre for Reliability and 15 Electronics Test & Development Centres (ETDCs) located at various places in the country. These Laboratories / Centres have been equipped with modern/sophisticated test and calibration facilities for testing the electronic products as per requirements of both domestic and export markets.

(b) and (c) No specific complaint in this regard has been received in the Department of Electronics.

(d) At present, the testing of electronic products for quality is voluntary except in cases where major users like Department of Telecommunication, Department of Space and the Ministry of Defence insist on Quality Certificate mainly from their departmental laboratories. The testing facilities available at Electronics Regional Test Laboratories/Electronics Test and Development Centres (ERTLs/ETDCs) can be made use for different types of Quality Certificates. Recently, a quality certification scheme for consumer products such as TV sets and Personal Computers has been introduced by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and Department of Electronics, Standardisation Testing & Quality Control (STQC) Directorate.

Under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, a three-tier quasi-judicial machinery at district, State and national levels for redressal of consumer grievances has been set up.. A Consumer Interface Cell is also operating in the Department of Electronics which takes up the complaints from consumer directly with the manufacturers of consumer electronic items.

Three Indian Laboratories viz. Electronics Regional Test Laboratories located at Delhi, Calcutta and Bombay set up under the Department of Electronics have been authorised by International Electro-technical Commission for Quality Assessment of Electronics Components (IEQC), Geneva as Independent Test Laboratories (ITLs) which can test and certify electronic components for export to 24 Member countries including USA, USSR, Japan,, South Korea, FRG, UK and other European countries.

Delinking Indian Olympic Association from politicians

3141. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to delink the Indian Olympic Association from politicians;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) No, Sir.

The Indian Olympic Association is an independent and autonomous body, being a Society registered under the Registration of Societies Act.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Making social service compulsory for getting Government jobs

3142. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to make social service compulsory for getting Government jobs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS